

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 10, 11, 14, 26, 27, 30 and 31 as shown in the attached Appendix. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows.

BT Sub C17

1. (Twice Amended) An information processing method comprising:
storing a received mail document including text data and ink data, an ink image being reproduced from the ink data and overlaid on a text image reproduced from the text data when the mail document is reproduced;
inserting a character string to the text data when a new document quoting the received mail document is prepared;
deriving a shift amount of an output position of the ink image according to a new text image reproduced from the text data to which the character string was inserted;
and
outputting, as the new document, the ink image which is overlaid on the new text image reproduced from the text data to which the character string was inserted, the ink image being shifted according to the derived shift amount.

2. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein the ink data comprises locus information to define the output position by coordinate values.

3. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein said character string to be inserted is a quotation symbol.

4. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein said character string to be inserted is an inserting comment text.

5. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein said character string to be inserted is a character string that can be edited.

6. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein said shift amount is length information.

7. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein the shift output of said received mail is carried out by setting said shift amount as an offset value of said received mail document.

8. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein said shift amount is derived according to a number of lines of the character string to be inserted and a line pitch of the document format.

9. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing method according to Claim 1, wherein said shift amount is derived according to a number of lines and a number of characters of the character string to be inserted and according to a line pitch and a character pitch of the document format.

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10. (Twice Amended) An information processing method comprising:
storing document information comprising locus information and text
information, a locus image being reproduced from the locus information and overlaid on a
text image being reproduced from the text information when the document is reproduced;
editing said text information;
deriving a shift amount of an output position of the locus image according
to a new text image reproduced from the edited text information; and
outputting the locus image which is overlaid on the new text image
reproduced from the edited text information, the locus image being shifted according to the
derived shift amount.

11. (Twice Amended) The information processing method according to Claim
10, wherein the derived shift amount is a difference between a position of the text image
upon output thereof without the editing and a position of the text image upon output
thereof after the editing.

12. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing method
according to Claim 10, wherein said editing is insertion of a character string.

13. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing method
according to Claim 10, wherein the shift amount is coordinate data.

14. (Twice Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

received mail storing means for storing a received mail document including text data and ink data, an ink image being reproduced from the ink data and overlaid on a text image reproduced from the text data when the mail document is reproduced;

insertion means for inserting a character string to the text data when a new document quoting the received mail document is prepared;

shift amount deriving means for deriving a shift amount of an output position of the ink image according to a new text image reproduced from the text data to which the character string was inserted; and

output means for outputting, as the new document, the ink image which is overlaid on the new text image reproduced from the text data to which the character string was inserted, the ink image being shifted according to the derived shift amount.

15. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein the ink data comprises locus information to define the output position by coordinate values.

16. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein said character string to be inserted is a quotation symbol.

17. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein said character string to be inserted is an inserting comment text.

18. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein said character string to be inserted is a character string that can be edited.

19. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein said shift amount is length information.

20. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein the shift output of said received mail is carried out by setting said shift amount as an offset value of said received mail document.

21. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein said shift amount is derived according to a number of lines of the character string to be inserted and a line pitch of the document format.

22. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein said shift amount is derived according to a number of lines and a number of characters of the character string to be inserted and according to a line pitch and a character pitch of the document format.

23. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein said output means is an ink jet printer.

24. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein said output means is a printer.

25. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein said output means is a display device.

26. (Twice Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:
storage means for storing document information comprising locus information and text information, a locus image being reproduced from the locus information and overlaid on a text image being reproduced from the text information when the document is reproduced;

text edit means for editing said text information;

shift amount deriving means for deriving a shift amount of an output position of the locus image according to a new text image reproduced from the edited text information; and

output [outputting] means for outputting the locus image which is overlaid on the new text image reproduced from the edited text information, the locus image being shifted according to the derived shift amount.

27. (Twice Amended) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein the derived shift amount is a difference between a position of the text image upon output thereof without the editing and a position of the text image upon output thereof after the editing.

28. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein said editing is insertion of a character string.

29. (Not Changed From Prior Version) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein the shift amount is coordinate data.

30. (Twice Amended) A storage medium for storing computer-executable process steps for an information processing method, said storage medium storing:

code for storing a received mail document including text data and ink data, an ink image being reproduced from the ink data and overlaid on a text image reproduced from the text data when the mail document is reproduced;

code for inserting a character string to the text data when a new document quoting the received mail document is prepared;

code for deriving a deviation amount of an output position of the ink image according to a new text image reproduced from the text data to which the character string was inserted; and

code for outputting, as the new document, the ink image which is overlaid on the new text image reproduced from the text data to which the character string was inserted, the ink image being shifted according to said derived shift amount.

31. (Twice Amended) A storage medium for storing computer-executable process steps for an information processing method, said storage medium storing:

code for storing document information comprising locus information and text information, a locus image being reproduced from the locus information and overlaid on a text image being reproduced from the text information when the document is reproduced;

code for editing said text information;

code for deriving a shift amount of an output position of the locus image according to a new text image reproduced from the edited text information; and

code for outputting the locus image which is overlaid on the new text image reproduced from the edited text information, the locus image being shifted according to the derived shift amount.

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 25, 2001 and the Advisory Action dated February 21, 2002. Claims 1-31 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, 14, 26, 30 and 31 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mosher, MS Exchange Users Handbook (3/1/97), in view of U.S. Patent 5,590,257 (Forcier).

The present invention concerns information processing in which images for text data and ink data are overlaid. When an edit or insertion is made to the text data, the position of its image is affected. Conventional systems do not properly compensate for this change, however, such that the relative position between text and ink images is not maintained.